

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 65 on pages 32-33 with the following paragraph showing changes.

If there is not ~~in the method 600 did not have~~ a device request in the decisional step 604, the method 600 then determines if it received a context switch request in a decisional step 630. If a context switch request was received, the method 600 then prevents the thread associated with the context ~~context~~ switch request from executing until the device request is fulfilled in a step 640. In a related embodiment, preventing the thread from executing may further include replacing the thread's current instruction with a NOP instruction to prevent the thread from executing until the device request is fulfilled. Of course, however, the present invention is not limited to using NOP instructions to prevent a thread from executing. In other embodiments of the present invention, any type of instruction or flag may be used to prevent the thread from executing. In another embodiment, the method 600 may also allow the threads within the multi-thread execution pipeline loop to continue to execute while the thread is waiting for its device request to be fulfilled. Next, the method 600 returns to determine the next type of request in the decisional step 604.